

## Weather Alerts

When a snow event occurs, the City of Cincinnati follows the Snow Emergency Level system as determined by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

The Snow Emergency Levels are:

### Level 1 - Snow Alert

Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow.

### Level 2 - Snow Advisory

Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roadways. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work.

### Level 3-Snow Emergency

All municipal, township, county and state roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should be out during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel. Those traveling on the roadways may subject themselves to arrest.

## Parking Restrictions

When the City of Cincinnati issues a Snow Parking Restriction, parking is prohibited on those City streets designated as snow emergency routes. All citizens are encouraged to park off the street if possible.



Mark Mallory, Mayor

### Council Members

Roxanne Qualls  
Laure Quinlivan  
Chris Seelbach  
Yvette Simpson  
P.G. Sittenfeld  
Christopher Smitherman  
Cecil Thomas  
Charlie Winburn  
Wendell Young

Milton Dohoney, Jr.  
City Manager

[www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov)  
[twitter.com/cincinnatiisnow](https://twitter.com/cincinnatiisnow)

**Snow Hotline**  
513 591 SNOW  
513 591 7669



# Winter Operations Information



3300 Colerain Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45225

513 591 6000  
513 591 6028 TTY  
513 591 6027 FAX

# From the Director

Dear Community Member:

The City of Cincinnati places a high priority on keeping our street network safe and usable during the winter season and needs your assistance to ensure that this occurs. Your attention to the enclosed winter driving tips and keeping the sidewalks clear of snow and ice can help enhance safety for our citizens and the visitors to our communities.

City crews treat streets in an systematic fashion giving priority to more heavily traveled roadways, steep hills, bridges that freeze sooner than the rest of the roadways, main access routes to hospitals and schools, and transit routes. Citizens should expect to see trucks treating streets as early as a few hours before it starts to snow, and most streets should be treated 24 hours after the snow ends.

We are working with area travelers, employers, and operational partners to help clear the roads of snow. Combined with your patience and attention to the winter driving tips, we will be able to handle whatever mother nature has to offer.

Remember when it snows, the Department of Public Services is committed to provide service excellence in snow removal!

Sincerely,

Andrew B. Glenn, Jr.

Director of Public Services

# Winter Driving Tips

## Tips Before You Drive

- Keeps your vehicle's gas tank at least half full at all times.
- Make sure windshield fluid is full.
- Winterize your car by fully charging the battery and checking tire air pressure.
- Use deicer or heat your key with a match or lighter to open frozen locks. DO NOT use water, even if it is hot.
- Keep emergency driving supplies such as ice scrapers, snow brushes, blankets, shovels, jumper cables, flares, sand, extra clothing, deicer, matches, candles, flashlights, cell phone, water and non-perishable food in your vehicle.
- Listen to weather reports before heading out.

## Tips While on the Road

- Remember bridges and ramps freeze before roads.
- Salt treatment is enhanced by friction that comes from tires, which explains why heavier traveled streets tend to clear faster after salt is applied.
- If your vehicle gets stuck, ease or "rock" out of spaces. Spinning the tires only digs a car deeper in the snow. If your vehicle won't budge after rocking it, try to seek help or call for assistance.
- Keep a safe distance of 50 feet from snow removal equipment and the car in front of you. It takes longer to stop on wet or icy roads.
- When skidding, steer your vehicle in the direction you want to go -- DO NOT slam on the breaks.
- SLOW DOWN!

# Road Treatment Procedures

## Logistics

Before and during Winter Weather events, crews and equipment are centrally dispatched from the four district salt domes to community routes, hills, bridges, and important public facilities. Pickup trucks, dump trucks and specialty equipment are all utilized to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

## Operations and Technology

Each winter weather event is different. Media, weather services, and ground temperature sensors are closely monitored and strategies developed to battle evolving road conditions.

Anti-icing is our proactive operation in which efforts are focused on pre-treating roadways and preventing precipitation from forming ice on the roadways. Deicing is our reactive operation in which efforts shift to cutting through and removing ice from roadways. Throughout the course of a winter weather event, efforts may be focused on one or both of these efforts, and that focus often changes hour by hour.

Granular salt may be used alone or dissolved in water to form a slurry that dries to form a protective layer on pavement. Additives such as Geomelt (Beet Juice) may be added to brine to make it more effective at lower temperatures. Plowing is particularly effective when removing large amounts of snow from the roadways.

## Communication

Throughout the course of a winter weather event, the City publishes valuable road condition updates in the form of media releases. These releases are sent to area media outlets and are also published on the City website at [www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov). Heavier winter storms that occur during rush hour can have a dramatic impact on your commute because the snow treating trucks are also delayed. When this happens, the City directly notifies employers and schools of a potential rush hour complication along with a request that consideration be given to voluntarily releasing employees and students early.